

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. -5 (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A frame transfer apparatus comprising:

a network processor determining whether or not ~~the~~ a received frame is to be monitored based on a destination address in header information of the received frame, and generating, from the received frame, a single dual-purpose normally-transferred and monitored frame including the destination address and in-device information transferred to a CPU for monitoring when the received frame is found to be monitored,

a local switch receiving the dual-purpose frame from the network processor and multicasting the dual-purpose frame thereby to generate two frames,

the network processor receiving the two frames from the local switch and editing one of the two frames to generate a monitored frame having unique in-device information without the destination address and editing the other of the two frames for a normally-transferred frame including the destination address without the in-device information, and

a switch portion establishing a path corresponding to each of the ~~two~~ edited frames received from the network processor.

7-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The frame transfer apparatus as claimed in claim 6 wherein the header information of the dual-purpose frame includes a monitored ID as well as information necessary for restoring a normally-transferred ID and information used for monitoring,

the local switch generates, upon the multicasting, the two frames having the monitored ID of the dual-purpose frame respectively rewritten into an original flag and a monitored flag, and

the network processor, upon generating the normally-transferred frame and the monitored frame respectively restores the header information of the frame having the original flag to the a normally-transferred ID and rewrites the header information of the frame having the monitored flag into a CPU-transferred ID.

10. (Cancelled)